

City of Long Beach Business Brief

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Welcome to the Economic Development Department's Business Brief! We are continuing to ensure you are updated on the latest business resources and news.

City of Long Beach Announces New Outdoor Dining Grant Program



The City of Long Beach Outdoor Dining Grant Program will provide financial relief to Long Beach bars, breweries, distilleries, restaurants, and wineries. It will administer grants up to \$10,000 to reimburse a variety of existing eligible expenses associated with operating outdoors. Eligible expenses must have

been incurred between June 1, 2020 and December 28, 2020.

The Outdoor Dining Grant Prequalification Form opened today Friday, December 18 and will close on Monday, December 28 at 4:00 p.m. (PST). Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for a grant, businesses must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be located in Long Beach and have been impacted by COVID-19.
- Must have obtained City of Long Beach business license by March 1, 2020.
- Must be approved to operate outdoors with one of the following:
 - An approved COVID-19 Outdoor Activities Permit (OAP)
 - An approved COVID-19 Parklet Permit
 - An approved Sidewalk Permit
- Must be operating in adherence to City Health Order; must not be permanently closed
- Must operate a bar, brewery, distillery, restaurant, or winery
- Business owners that own multiple establishments may apply more than once, but they will only become eligible for a second grant, if funds remain after all applications have been reviewed

Use of Funding

All funds must be spent on eligible expenses related to outdoor dining and in response to compliance with COVID-19 Health Orders. Eligible expenses include the following:

- Cladding
- Contactless payment systems
- Deck installation/improvements
- Furniture
- Lighting
- Heaters/warmers
- Personal protective equipment (e.g., face masks, face shields, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc.)
- Sanitization equipment
- Signage
- Shade sails
- Safety equipment (e.g., barriers, reflectors, etc.)
- Tents/canopies

Application Process

To apply for the Outdoor Dining Grant Program, businesses shall complete the following steps:

- Visit the City's Outdoor Dining Grant Program **webpage**.
- Review Outdoor Dining Grant Program eligibility requirements.
- If eligible, complete the online Outdoor Dining Prequalification Form.
- Businesses that are prequalified by the City will be required to submit the following information before receiving final approval for a grant award:

- Business owner's valid government photo ID (i.e. driver's license)
- Proof of City of Long Beach COVID-19 Outdoor Activities Permit, COVID-19 Parklet Permit, or Sidewalk Permit
- Receipts, paid invoices and/or other supporting documentation that verifies all expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the Outside Dining Grant Program
- Copy of City of Long Beach Business License
- Businesses that are approved for a grant will be required to submit the following upon request:
 - Signed Grant Agreement
 - W9 Form

BizCare Hotline

Phone number: (562) 570-4249

Hours of operation: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

BizCare Pop-Ups

BizCare pop-ups are currently taking place through Dec. 30, as follows:

- Mondays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Admiral Kidd Park (2125 Santa Fe Ave.)
- Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.)
- Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library
- Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mark Twain Neighborhood Library (1401 E. Anaheim St.)

For more information about business assistance and resources, people can go to the [Business Support webpage](#) or contact the City's BizCare Hotline at 562.570.4BIZ.

City of Long Beach Extends Open Streets Program

The Long Beach City Council voted Tuesday to extend the city's open streets program, leaving open the possibility that outdoor dining parklets could be more permanent than originally intended, and even expanded.

The city's **Open Streets program**, which has resulted in restaurant parklets being built out into existing lanes of traffic and other street closures to promote safe outdoor activities was set to expire next month. However a unanimous vote by the council Tuesday will extend the program starting in January, with quarterly reviews of the street closures.

It will also include the continuance of the closure of Pine Avenue in Downtown from First to Fifth streets. The vote also authorized the city's traffic engineer to possibly review and adjust streets identified for the program going forward.

Many of the street closures were authorized to aid in businesses' recovery from the initial economic shutdown and bans on indoor dining in the county. While a statewide order currently has shutdown outdoor dining in Long Beach, the parklets could prove critical to businesses trying to rebound from the current closures.

The closures are expected to be reviewed quarterly and the cost to the city to continue the program is unclear. Over \$730,000 has been budgeted toward the program to date with funding coming from local and federal sources.

City of Long Beach Launches New Program to Train Thousands of Unemployed Workers for In-Demand Logistics Jobs

The City of Long Beach, in partnership with **Pacific Gateway Workforce Innovation Network (Pacific Gateway)**, announced a new training program with **Prologis, Inc.** designed to provide rapid skills training for Long Beach workers in the transportation, distribution and logistics sectors.

With demand for skilled logistics workers at an all-time high, the Prologis Warehousing and Distribution Program will help job candidates learn more about the industry and position them for success. Developed in partnership with **Jobs for the Future (JFF)**, a national nonprofit that drives transformation in the American workforce and education systems, the new online curriculum will help job candidates learn fundamentals of e-commerce, supply chain and inventory management, safety and other key skills required for logistics careers.

The online program provides self-paced, 30- to 45-minute courses that can be taken via a mobile app or on a laptop or desktop computer and are designed to be accessible for youth and adults of all ages and education levels. Additional training is available in professional skills, such as communication, and career development skills, such as resume-building and interviewing.

For more information on this program and to get started with training today, people can visit pacific-gateway.org/prologis.

Free PPE for LA County Small Businesses



The County of Los Angeles continues to offer a PPE program called “**PPE Unite**” to distribute free 30-day supplies of face masks, hand-sanitizer,

and face shields to eligible small businesses in LA County.

This is a joint effort between State, local, and private entities, and is easy to sign up for. To apply go to www.ppeunite.org

To be eligible:

- You must operate a small business with less than 50 employees
- Your business must be located in Los Angeles County
- You must operate as a sole proprietor, partnership, LLC, C or S-Corp, or micro-business
- You have not received any PPE through this program in the past

Contact the City of Long Beach BizCare Hotline for Immediate Assistance:

Phone number: 562-570-4BIZ (4249)

Days: Monday - Friday

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

City staff will respond to voicemails made after business hours within 24 hours.

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longbeach.gov/4BIZ